

PETER THE GREAT'S LATEST PROGRESS

Secretary of N. T. A. Just
Back From Louisiana,
Tells Story.

ROMANCE OF THE SOUTH
Slave Started Chain of Events
Resulting in Production of
Greatest Trotting Sire.

By W. H. COCHER.

A mistake made by a slave on the plantation of Gen. Thomas Jefferson Wells in Rapides Parish, Louisiana, in the spring of 1861 started a chain of events which resulted in the production of Peter the Great, 2:07 3/4. As he is the wonder sire of the horse world, anything in relation to him that is authentic is of interest.

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Lexington's First Foal.
The next line of the pedigree of Peter the Great was started at the Metairie race track, New Orleans, in April, 1854. That was the month in which Lexington, a half sister to Reel, the dam of Lecomte, was foaled.

After Edith had been defeated in two races, General Wells was shipped to Lexington, Kentucky, where the Wellwood broodmares were kept. The following spring Edith foaled a bay filly. She was mated with Cracker, a son of Lexington, and in 1856 dropped a colt.

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One of them was for paces, and for trotting and one over the hurdles. B. F. Gill also saw him in the same track at Franklin. This horse got Lady Duncan, the granddam of Peter the Great.

Lady Duncan for \$25.
B. F. Gill purchased Dixie in the fall of 1870 for \$200. He was offered her by Octon, Jr., for \$30, but did not take it. Dr. Greenfield sold the filly to a man named Quarles. He lived in Robertson county. Quarles trained her at two and three years old. When she began to show speed as a trotter he and Dick Madison took her to Lexington. They sold her to William Duncan. He named her Lady Duncan.

In 1874 Lady Duncan was trained at Nashville. Her speed soon gave her a local reputation. This was increased when B. F. Gill arrived with her dam, Dixie. He bred her to Enfield. When urged to show her speed on a trot Gill drove Dixie a mile in three minutes without any preparation other than road work.

William Duncan sold Lady Duncan to S. A. Browne. He took her to Michigan and started her in a few races in 1875. She proved to be too high keyed in company. Browne bred her to Grand Sentinel and to Santos. Both ponies were Greys. He also changed the name of Lady Duncan to Shadow and had her registered as being by Octon, dam Swallow by Joe Hooker, second dam Sam Johnson, and stated that she was bred by Jonathan Hardin, Nashville, Tenn. No one has ever been able to locate this gentleman or any one who ever knew him. The facts here set forth, all of which are properly attested under oath, change the pedigree of Peter the Great to read as follows:

As Mr. Cochran Has It.
Peter the Great, b. h., foaled 1885, by Pilot Medium, dam Santos, by Grand Sentinel; second dam Lady Duncan, by Octon, Jr.; third dam Dixie, by Creole; fourth dam Bettie Wilson, said to be by Cumberland, son of imported Ambassador.

William Duncan the great-grandfather of Peter the Great was bred by the wife of Dr. Greenfield of Clarksville, Tenn., and Dixie, the next dam, was bred by her father, Nicholas Barker. The blood line of this remarkable horse present a blending of trotting, racing, saddle and thoroughbred strains.

The trotting lines run through Pilot Medium and Grand Sentinel. The racing and saddle strains run through Octon, Jr., to Octon and through Joe Brown to Davy Crockett. The thoroughbred and blood lines run through Creole, Alkenhead, his sire, was a natural pacer and raced at no other gait, while his dam was the thoroughbred mare Lady Bess, by Lexington, who was bred by the late Mr. Russell, pike, two and a half miles from the city, on the Cumberland River.

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Thrice Champion of National Horse Show



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WASTE IN CONDUCT OF MOST DOG SHOWS

Needless Expenditure for
Printing Aggregates Thou-
sands of Dollars.

By FRANK F. DOLE.
If officials of a kennel club were accused of throwing away \$150 in the conduct of their show without benefiting the club, the show or the exhibitors, they would probably indignantly deny the charge. Yet something very near that sum, usually rather more than that, is thrown away by each club giving a show, and in a year this aggregates thousands of dollars in waste.

This big loss is due to the inefficiency and duplication of printing the specialty prizes in the premium lists and catalogues of every show. The only benefit from this needless duplication accrues to the printers. Taking a fair average on which to work, the results show that practically \$20,000 is spent each year which, with a bit of efficiency, might be saved.

The situation is closely parallel to that prevailing in the days when the kennel club required the printing of its rules in the show catalogues. I attacked that as a needless hardship on the clubs and urged that the burden of getting out the rules be placed on the exhibitors and relieving the clubs of the expense of printing pages of rules.

Case of Mathematics.
The average premium list contains thirty-five pages of specialty prizes and the catalogues contain about twenty-five. In some instances there are more in some less, but this is a fair average. The cost of getting out the premium list is approximately \$2.50 a page and the catalogue \$3. There were about 120 shows during 1921. The rest is just a case of simple mathematics.